

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 SCI-06 NASA-04 DRC-01

/158 W

----- 004164

R 190840Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5648

INFO COMIDEASTFOR

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENGLAND

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1305

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, MA, TSPA

SUBJ: TACTICS VIS-A-VIS MALAGASY FOREIGN MINISTRY

REFS: A) STATE 181983(NOTAL); B) STATE 183892

1. I CONCUR COMPLETELY AT THIS POINT IN RELAXED TACTICS RECOMMENDED
REFTEL A IN CONNECTION WITH NEGOTIATIONS FOR RENEWAL NASA TRACKING
STATION AGREEMENT.

2. ONLY REASON WE HAD FOR PUSHING COOPERATING AGENCY ISSUE WAS TO
TRY BE PREPARED FOR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WHEN MCKEEHAN RETURNS TANA-
NARIVE IN NOV. HOWEVER, WE AGREE WITH REFTEL A INFERENCE THAT THERE
IS NO REAL NEED FROM US STANDPOINT SETTLE THIS QUESTION RIGHT AWAY.
NASA IS PROCEEDING WITH ACTIONS REQUIRED TO MEET MALAGASIZATION SCH-
EDULE, AND GOMR HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY PUT ON NOTICE ABOUT NEED FOR IT
TO PROPOSE COOPERATING AGENCY. THUS WE CAN CERTAINLY FOR PRESENT
LEAVE BALL IN ITS COURT.

3. AS FOR REFTEL B, EMBASSY WILL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CUSTOMARY
PRACTICE, SEND MALAGASY MOFA BEFORE END SEPT PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE
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OF FY74 SECOND QUARTER MALAGASY PORT CALLS BY COMIDEASTFOR SHIPS,

WHICH INCLUDE FOUR-SHIP TURNOVER AT DIEGO SUAREZ DEC 18-21. IN PRE-SENTING SCHEDULE WE EXPECT DCM MAKE COMMENT AT LOWER LEVEL ABOUT OUR ASSUMING THERE NO LONGER ANY OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO US NAVAL VIS-ITS TO DIEGO SUAREZ.

4. HOWEVER, I ANTICIPATE THERE WILL LIKELY BE NEED FOR ME TO TRY CALL ON FONMIN RATSIRAKA IN LATE OCT (IF HE IS BACK IN MADAGASCAR) TO GET ACTUAL CONCURRENCE IN PRINCIPLE TO DIEGO SUAREZ TURNOVER. WE WOULD WANT GIVE COMIDEASTFOR ADEQUATE TIME TO MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TURNOVER IF, CONTRARY TO OUR HOPE AND EXPECTATION, THEY PROVE NECESSARY. ONLY CALL ON RATSIRAKA AT THIS JUNCTURE WOULD BE LIKELY TO GIVE US POSITIVE RESPONSE IN PROMPT FASHION.
MENDENHALL

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